

Community Bible Church Sermon Discussion Questions: Dec 10, 2023 Pastor Ed Newton

Title: I got the POWER. (Yes, I got this from Snap, 1990)

**Text:** *"*For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." **Isaiah 9:6** 

**Target:** *"My God is so big, so strong, and so mighty. There's nothing my God cannot do for you."* (Kids Song)

- I. <u>Definition of "Mighty God":</u> "For the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great, the mighty, and the awesome God" (Deut. 10:17)
  - A. Mighty: "Gibbor" means "Hero, Champion or Warrior"
    - **1. Duet. 3:24:** *"For what god is there in heaven or on earth who can do such works and mighty acts as yours?"*
    - **2. Deut. 26:8:** "And the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great deeds of terror, with signs and wonders."
  - B. God: "El" is the shortened form of the word "Elohim"
    - **1. Genesis 1:1:** *"In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth."*
    - **2. Psalm 50:1:** *"The mighty one, God the Lord, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting."*
    - **3.** John 1:3: "All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made."

**Question #1:** What areas of our life should be impact and influenced by the truth that our God is mighty, powerful, and capable of all things - (be specific)? How does our faith in God's power influence our response to both times of adversity and times of prosperity?

- **II.** <u>Demonstration as "Mighty God":</u> "though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men." (Philippians 2:6-7)
  - A. Over Creation: "And the men marveled, saying, "What sort of man is this, that even winds and sea ones him?" (Matthew 8:27)
  - B. Over Demons: "And when the demon had been cast out, the mute man spoke. And the crowds marveled, saying, "Never was anything like this seen in Israel." (Matthew 9:33)
  - C. **Over Sin:** "Then those who were at the table with him began to say among themselves, "who is this who even forgives sin?" (Luke 7:49)
  - **D. Over Sickness:** "So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, those having seizures, and paralytics, and he healed them." (Matthew 4:24)
  - E. Over Death: "And all were weeping and mourning for her, but he said, "Do not weep, for she is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him, knowing that she was dead." (Luke 8:52-53)

**Question #2:** What is unique about how Jesus demonstrated his power? How was it different from the kings and rulers of His day? How does it compare with the World's desire for, and constant pursuit of, power? How does Jesus' example shape the way we exercise the authority we have over others (ei. kids, employees, etc.)?

- **III.** Implication as "Mighty God": "The LORD your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing" (Zephaniah 3:17)
  - A. He has the power to <u>SAVE</u> you: "No other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved" (Acts 4:12)
  - B. He has the power to <u>KEEP</u> you: "nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate you us from the Love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:39)
  - **C.** He has the power to <u>DEFEND</u> you: "The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to be silent" (Exodus 14:14)
  - **D.** He has the power to <u>RESURRECT</u> you: "Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live," (John 11:25)

**Question #3:** What significance is there in the distinction that God is not only powerful, but He is also loving and caring toward us? Does God's love obligate him to intervene in every human affair, or can it exist along with people's free will and its consequences?

- IV. <u>Desperation</u> for a "Mighty God": "And Jesus, perceiving in himself that power had gone out from him, immediately turned about in the crowd and said, "Who touched my garments?" (Mark 5:30)
  - **A.** Surrender to Him: "Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you," (1 Peter 5:6)
  - B. Receive from Him: "Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you." (Luke 10:19)

**Takeaway:** There is no situation you will ever face that God won't be strong enough to deliver you from that place.

**Question #4:** What examples from life or Scripture come to mind that demonstrate how a person's humble surrender to God's will led to powerful results? What conclusions can we draw from their example?

**Question #5:** In Mark 5:25-34, a woman with a bleeding complication pursued Jesus with desperate emotion and adamant faith in His ability to heal her. *How does her story exemplify the nature of God's heart and the circumstances to which He responds?*